

## RUSSIANS SMASHED IN SERETH BATTLE

Mackensen's Troops Capture  
Focsani, Rumanian For-  
tified City.

4,000 PRISONERS TAKEN

Muscovite Forces Are Falling  
Back in Disorder to Line  
of the River.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—Von Mackensen has  
smashed the fortified line of the Sereth,  
captured the fortress of Focsani, its  
western support, and is driving the Rus-  
sians and Rumanians toward the river.  
He has taken 4,000 prisoners.

A retreat of the Russians across the  
whole lower Sereth River, fifty miles of  
their front, will probably follow the de-  
feat at Focsani. The strong and well  
fortified positions the Teutons pierced  
there by bayonet charges were indis-  
pensable to a defence of the southern  
bank.

Russia's only hope of averting a de-  
cise defeat in the Sereth battle is the  
Russian offensive south of the Gulf of  
Riga, at the northern end of the long  
Rumanian front. This offensive, begun  
with some success on Friday, made more  
headway to-day, the Russians storming  
German trenches and capturing a vil-  
lage. The German official statement ad-  
mits some Russian success.

Driven Back in Confusion.

The Teuton exploit in breaking down  
the defense of Focsani is a notable one.  
The fortifications on the river Milcovul,  
south of Focsani, built in October, were  
pierced yesterday, and the Russians  
were driven back rapidly. They had  
not been able to reform. Focsani was  
situated on the western end of the Rumanian  
Sereth line, of which Galatz is the east-  
ern end. Besides its military impor-  
tance, the city, with a population of 30,-  
000, is one of Rumania's considerable  
cities and a small oil centre.

Heavy Firing Near Riga.

To-night's German statement an-  
nounced the retreat of the Russians from  
Focsani and heavy firing near Riga.  
The day statement says:  
Front of Archduke Joseph.—De-  
spite a snow storm and severe cold  
we again pushed back the enemy between  
the Putna and Otus valleys.

Army Group of Field Marshal von  
Bullow.—Jagers brought about  
other great success to the Ninth army,  
especially to the victorious German  
and Austro-Hungarian troops of Gen.  
Kraft von Desensingen.

They threw back the Rus-  
sians and Rumanians from the  
strongly fortified main mass of Mount  
Odobchit to the Putna.

Further south, the Milcovul position,  
which had been constructed in  
October and was tenaciously defended,  
was captured by storm and in hand  
to hand fighting. Pushing on behind,  
we gave the enemy no time to settle  
himself in his second line on the canal  
between Focsani and Yartestea. This  
position also was pierced and, pressing  
onward, we crossed the road from  
Focsani to Botolst.

Focsani Is Occupied.

This morning Focsani was captured.  
From the captured fortifications 2,510  
prisoners, three cannon and several  
machine guns were brought in.

Eastern Front.—Front of Prince  
Leopold.—West of the Riga-Mitau  
road the Russians yesterday attacked  
again with strong forces on a broad  
front. On the River Aa they suc-  
ceeded in broadening somewhat the  
ground gained on January 5.

Other points they were singularly  
repulsed.

The Russian statement regarding  
operations on the entire front says:

Rumanian front.—After strong artil-  
lery preparation the enemy in the  
morning assumed the offensive in the  
region of Petzech, northwest of Foc-  
sani, and pressed back the Rumanians.  
Further movements by the enemy,  
however, were stopped by the arrival  
of our reserves.

The enemy in close formation took  
the offensive on sectors of our posi-  
tion in the region of Ponticheschi,  
northwest of Focsani. Being met by  
our heavy fire they fell back, leav-  
ing a great number of killed or  
wounded.

Teuton Attacks Fail.

Enemy attacks north of Clonska  
Utota and at All, on the River Sereth,  
eight versts (five miles) east of the  
mouth of the Buzen, were also com-  
pletely unsuccessful.

Western (Russian) front.—Our de-  
tachments gained possession of a vil-  
lage in the vicinity of the northwest-  
ern corner of the swamp of Tirul.  
After a stubborn struggle we captured  
enemy trenches north of the village  
of Kalzen, and south of the western  
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and one heavy battery. All the fierce  
counter attacks by the enemy were  
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In the battle south of Lake Babit  
(Riga front) since the beginning of  
the operations on Saturday we have  
captured sixteen cannon and about  
800 prisoners. Our troops have dis-  
played extraordinary endurance and  
unrestrained bravery.

GUILTY OF WIFE MURDER.

Frederick L. Small, Former Boston  
Broker, Is Convicted.

OSWEGO, N. Y., Jan. 8.—A verdict of  
"guilty, with capital punishment," was  
returned to-night against Frederick L.  
Small, former Boston broker, who was  
charged with the murder of his wife,  
Florence A. Small.

The Small house at Mountainview, N.  
Y., was burned on the night of Septem-  
ber 18, and Mrs. Small's body was found  
in the cellar the next morning. Small  
was immediately charged with her mur-  
der. Mrs. Small's body had fallen  
through to the cellar, where it lay in  
water that prevented its incineration and  
preserved evidence of murder. The skull  
had been crushed and a rope was wound  
about the neck.

At the time the house was burned  
Small was in Boston, where he had gone  
the preceding night. He returned at  
once and offered a \$1,000 reward for the  
capture of the murderer. It was brought  
out that Small had just taken out a  
\$100,000 life insurance policy for \$100,000. Much  
other circumstantial evidence pointing  
to Small's guilt was introduced at the  
trial.

## RASPUTIN REPORTED ALIVE.

Report by Way of Stockholm Says  
Monk Is in Close Custody.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—The Stockholm  
newspaper Nya Dagligt Allehanda, as  
quoted in an Exchange Telegraph  
dispatch, says that according to reliable  
information from Petrograd it is not  
believed there that the monk Gregory  
Rasputin is dead. The statement that  
his body was taken from the Neva is in-  
correct, according to this information,  
and the story of his death was cir-  
culated by his friends in order that he  
might escape.

For several weeks Rasputin has been  
threatened with death, the newspaper  
says, but as he is in close custody it is  
impossible that he could have been  
murdered.

## NEW CLUE FOUND TO SLAYER OF MODEL

Two Men Saw Him Flee From  
Window on Night of  
the Murder.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 8.—Startling evidence  
that will either clear the name of Ber-  
nard W. Lewis of all connection with the  
recent murder of Mazie Colbert, Philadel-  
phia model, or else point to him with  
almost complete certainty as involved  
in the tragedy is expected to be in the  
hands of Lewis's father, W. A. Lewis  
of this city, before to-morrow morning.

Relatives of Lewis, who ended his life  
in Atlantic City last Thursday as he  
was about to be arrested in connection  
with Miss Colbert's death, spoke with  
positiveness to-night regarding the fresh  
clue.

"We have got in touch with two men  
who saw the supposed slayer of Mazie  
Colbert leave the Wilton apartment  
house by way of a window the night  
she was murdered, December 29," said a  
representative of the family. "These  
men have not told what they know be-  
cause this for reasons that will be obvious  
when they are made public. They had  
a good view of the man and they say  
they need only to see a good photograph  
of Bernard Lewis to announce posi-  
tively whether or not he was the man  
they saw leaving the Wilton. One of  
the men is in an Ohio city now, and I  
am going to leave for there to-night to  
see him. I shall have a photograph of  
Bernard Lewis with me, and there is  
no doubt in my mind that within a  
few hours I will be able to produce the  
testimony of these two actual witnesses."

PROSECUTOR UNCHANGED

Still Believes Lewis Was Slayer of  
Miss Colbert.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8.—After ques-  
tioning a score of witnesses in an effort  
definitely to establish the identity of the  
murderer of Mazie Colbert, and the mo-  
tive therefor, District Attorney Rotan to-  
night announced that nothing had been  
developed to cause him to change his  
opinion that Bernard W. Lewis of Pitts-  
burg was the girl's slayer.

Members of the slain woman's family  
made a special appeal for a more thor-  
ough investigation, and Mr. Rotan to-day  
questioned Captain of Detectives Tate  
and virtually all other detectives who  
have been working on the mystic case.

Others examined included relatives of  
Miss Colbert, a Police Magistrate and  
several wealthy young men known to  
have been friendly with her. The exami-  
nation continued for more than seven  
hours.

John Colbert asserts he is confident  
that Lewis did not kill his sister. His  
theory is that she was killed in a fight  
with a jealous man.

Mayor Smith took a hand in the in-  
vestigation to-day. He invited newspa-  
per representatives to a conference in his  
office to-night and announced that he  
would see that "justice is done in this  
case."

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## DANIELS ASKS FOR NAVY BUILT SHIPS

Appeals for \$12,000,000 to  
Enable Building of Battle  
and Scout Cruisers.

CAN'T GET PRIVATE BIDS

Even With 20 Per Cent. Bonus  
Guarantee of Speedy Con-  
struction Is Refused.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Acknowledging  
failure to carry out his naval building  
program because of unreasonable  
prices of private shipbuilders, Secretary  
Daniels to-day appealed to Congress for  
\$12,000,000 to increase the building ca-  
pacity of navy yards. Mr. Daniels made  
this appeal after it became increasingly  
evident that he could not obtain bids for  
the four battle cruisers at the maximum  
cost of \$18,500,000, and the three scout  
cruisers for \$18,898,120.

The proposals of the shipbuilders to  
construct these ships at cost plus profit  
have fallen down after it became evident  
that this total amount would be in ex-  
cess of the amount Congress had author-  
ized. The Fore River Shipbuilding Cor-  
poration, on the cost plus profit basis,  
estimates it could construct a battle  
cruiser for \$18,898,120.

Congress has empowered the Navy De-  
partment to pay 20 per cent. more than  
the \$18,500,000 price provided there is  
speedy construction, but the shipbuilders  
will not promise that.

Mr. Daniels sets all these facts forth  
in a letter to Chairman Padgett of the  
House Naval Committee, in which he  
asks for the additional \$12,000,000. He  
says: "The situation with regard to the  
preparation of the program is such that if  
the manifest intention of Congress and  
the country is to be carried out radical  
action is necessary."

Secretary Daniels has already planned  
to have the Government make its own  
armor plate and manufacture its own  
ammunition. He has gone a step further  
in the present instance and virtually  
asks for the necessary equipment to en-  
able the Government to build its ships  
as warships.

Secretary Daniels is reported to have  
been very indignant over this attitude of  
the manufacturers and immediately be-  
gan maturing his plans for building all  
navy supplies in Government yards.

23D WILL ARRIVE TO-DAY.

Private Millard Taken From Train  
at Rochester for Operation.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 8.—The second  
section of the train bearing the Twenty-  
third New York Infantry from Phila-  
delphia, back to its army in Brooklyn  
reached here this morning. The section  
was held for the arrival of the first sec-  
tion, which it had passed, and for the  
rest of the trip home the second section  
will follow the first.

Private Henry Millard was taken to a  
hospital here and was operated upon for  
an internal disorder.

## MRS. J. L. DOUBLEDAY FLEES BLAZING HOME

Residence at Greenwich, Conn.,  
Burned to Ground—Owner  
Saves Her Pets.

The residence of Mrs. John Leland  
Doubleday on Round Hill road, Green-  
wich, Conn., was burned to the ground  
yesterday. Little of the contents was  
saved, and in the loss were a number of  
heirlooms, valuable oil paintings and an-  
tiques acquired in this country and  
abroad, as well as a quantity of silks,  
ware, jewelry, tapestries and rugs and  
other furnishings of great value.

It is believed the fire originated in a  
defective flue. It was going strong when  
Mrs. Doubleday was awakened by its  
crackling at 3 A. M. Seizing her bird  
cage and two small dogs she fled in  
night attire to the home of Coulter D.  
Huyler, about a quarter of a mile away.

Mr. Huyler, Carrington Weems of New  
York, John Brown of Greenwich, guests  
of Mr. Huyler, and Mr. Huyler's em-  
ployee dashed back to Mrs. Doubleday's  
home scantily clad and fought the blaze  
with chemical extinguishers until the ar-  
rival of the Greenwich fire fighting force.

Mr. Huyler was burned on the hands  
and face. In the meantime, John  
Doubleday, Mrs. Doubleday's son, had  
been summoned by telephone from the  
home of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Warford  
of Greenwich, where he had been for  
the week-end. He got home in time to  
see the walls of the house cave in.

There was some danger to the Huyler  
residence from quaking sparks, but the  
firemen averted a fire there.

Mrs. Doubleday said she carried only  
small insurance on her home and she  
could not estimate the damage.

## DISCORD AVERTED, DECLARES BRIAND

French Premier Says Council  
at Rome Eliminated All  
Difficulties.

PARIS, Jan. 8.—Although no communi-  
cation has been made public regarding  
the conference of the Allies, says a  
Rome despatch to the Temps, private  
conversations with some of the principal  
figures in the conference leave no doubt  
that the result is fully satisfactory and  
that the representatives of the Entente  
Powers are in full accord and full  
confidence. The French Premier, M.  
Briand, said to the Temps correspondent:  
"Our visit has been most fruitful and  
was timely. Many difficulties of detail  
had arisen since the last conference of  
the Allies. The attempt was made to  
believe the relations between the Allies  
—without mentioning the public events  
that are known to every one. It was  
necessary to dissipate the fogs and over-  
come the difficulties and find a common  
solution to accord with present and  
future events. All that was undertaken  
in a spirit of accord and good faith, and  
we have eliminated all the little diffi-  
culties that could hinder our united efforts."

B. R. T. HEADS FACE CHARGES.

District Attorney Lewis Starts  
"Cold Case" Prosecutions.

District Attorney Harry E. Lewis of  
Brooklyn announced yesterday that in-  
stead of instituting John Doe proceed-  
ings against Brooklyn Rapid Transit  
officials he would file a formal com-  
plaint in the Adams street police court  
to-morrow charging at least one official  
and possibly four officials with mis-  
demors in failing to maintain the  
temperature of the cars to at least 40  
degrees, the minimum required by the  
Public Service Commission.

Nine separate violations are charged  
and each violation carries with it a pos-  
sible penalty of \$500 fine and imprison-  
ment. If the action before the Magis-  
trate fails, Mr. Lewis is expected to  
submit his evidence to the Grand Jury.

## TAFT ATTACKS U. S. POLICY IN MEXICO

Tells Rubber Association of  
Need of Protection of In-  
terests Abroad.

"CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY"

Former President Also Severe-  
ly Arraigns Present Con-  
duct of the Philippines.

Urgent need for the protection of  
American capital and investors abroad,  
particularly in Mexico, and shortcom-  
ings of the Wilson Administration in that  
respect, formed the nub of the speech  
with which William Howard Taft drew  
rounds of applause from the members of  
the Rubber Association of America at its  
seventeenth annual banquet in the  
Waldorf-Astoria last night.

The former President was moved to  
consider this topic because the 600 diners  
before him represented a large national  
industry which had been extensively in-  
terested in rubber from Mexico at one  
time.

"There was an American rubber enter-  
prise in Mexico," said Mr. Taft, "but  
since Mexico has become an international  
rump state it hasn't afforded a great  
source for adding to your supply of crude  
rubber. This leads me to dwell for a  
moment upon the importance of our for-  
eign policy in respect to the protection  
of Americans engaged in carrying on in-  
dustries of this kind or other kinds in  
foreign countries."

Hesitation in Foreign Policy.

"There is at present a tendency in  
some circles to minimize the duty of our  
Government to protect American invest-  
ments in foreign countries. It is of a  
piece with the general disposition to at-  
tack all successful use of capital and to  
create a prejudice against it for political  
purposes, a disposition on the part of  
muckrakers to denounce men who have  
invested capital in foreign countries as  
"exploiters."

"This disposition has invaded the field  
of our foreign policy and has created  
there a hesitation in protecting foreign  
investments by our citizens which are en-  
titled under our Constitution to protection  
because they belong to our citizens and  
are not maintained for anything unlaw-  
ful."

Of course some injustice done to our  
people in other countries may not be of  
sufficient importance to justify our going  
to war. But it will be a fatal injury  
to our American enterprise and to the  
great usefulness of foreign investments  
by our citizens if it is to be understood  
that we will never resort to extreme  
measures in discharging the constitu-  
tional duty of this country toward its  
citizens when in foreign lands, and in  
protecting them against the unlawful in-  
vasion of lawless foreign government."

"A Constitutional Duty."

Mr. Taft quoted from decisions by  
Chief Justice Marshall and Justice Miller  
to show that such protection was "not  
only a constitutional duty but a wise  
and necessary public policy." From his  
experience as governor of the Philip-  
pines he also enlarged upon the necessity  
for a more liberal policy by Congress in  
developing the rubber and other re-  
sources of the islands. He asserted that  
"the present policy in the Philippines  
has been to drive out all the American  
civil servants and to turn the islands  
over to Filipino politicians, resulting in  
corruption and discontent."

Other speakers were Samuel McRob-  
erts, vice-president of the National City  
Bank; Bishop Frank du Moulin of Ohio  
and Col. Samuel P. Cobb, president of the  
United States Rubber Company. Har-  
vey S. Firestone, president of the asso-  
ciation, announced the change in its  
name from "club" to "association."

## SENATE DEMOCRATS UNITE AGAINST PORK

Continued from First Page.

which would show the effect of proposed  
legislation.

"In reporting on these bills the Depart-  
ment began by giving in the usual way  
first the estimated cost of site and build-  
ing in accordance with the space re-  
quired, and then added the population,  
postal receipts and rental paid by the  
Post Office Department, concluding with  
the following paragraph:

"The Department feels constrained, in  
view of all the conditions, to advise  
against the construction of a Federal  
building in this place at the present  
time."

After receiving the protest of the chair-  
man of the committee, the letter goes on  
to state, the Treasury Department mod-  
ified its reports by omitting the recom-  
mendation that no building be erected,  
but continued to give the cost of main-  
tenance, including investment, depreciation,  
repairs, etc.

PEEK INTO BARREL.

"Pork" System Analyzed by C. H.  
Whitaker in an Address.

For years and years, whenever he  
leaned an ear toward the halls of Con-  
gress, Charles H. Whitaker, editor of the  
Journal of the American Institute of  
Architects, has been aware of the  
squealing of pigs over pork; not only  
that, he heard the pork squeal raised all  
over the country from the Battery to  
the Golden Gate and from Duluth to  
Browsville.

The squealing in Congress sounded  
more loudly because it was near at  
hand, but Mr. Whitaker observed that  
it was merely a concentrated echo of the  
pork cry raised by the sovereign  
voters everywhere—North, South, East  
and West.

He came to the conclusion after years  
of study and travel that the Congress-  
man was not so much to blame as were  
the constituents; that the South was no  
more to be pitied than the North or  
the East or the West, for the people of  
every section had about the same hunger  
for Federal cash.

When one section's representatives were  
on the top of the Government heap that  
section got the fattest chunks. When an-  
other through the accident of the ballot  
dominated the country it made sure of  
filling its own larder. The Representa-  
tive or Senator was merely the agent of  
unreasonable public greed, since, poor fel-  
low, he was sure to lose his job in Con-  
gress if he didn't get the most expensive  
public building or river and harbor im-  
provement for his particular district.

Merely Following Suit.

These were general conclusions pre-  
sented by Mr. Whitaker last night before  
the members of the City Club in an ad-  
dress which he called "A Peek Into the  
Big Pork Barrel." He deprecated the  
uproar that is being made over the ac-  
tivities of Southern Representatives and  
Senators in connection with the pending  
omnibus public buildings bill, saying that  
the South was only doing in its period of  
power what the North and East and even  
the West had done when they had the  
sayso at Washington.

The trouble with the whole pork busi-  
ness, said Mr. Whitaker, is the loose,  
greedy system by which, at public de-  
mand, Congress is permitted to toss  
away millions of public money. He  
recommended, first of all, that a commis-

sion be named to investigate the whole  
matter of improper appropriations;  
to make an accurate study of what is  
just and fair, and to make definite  
recommendations to the President as to  
what can be done to lift such appropri-  
ations out of the narrow, selfish range of  
partisan politics. Mr. Whitaker believes  
that eventually another department of  
government will have to be created—a  
department of public works—which shall  
deal with Federal needs in a scientific,  
nonpartisan way. Coming directly to  
the present public buildings bill, Mr.  
Whitaker said:

"That the present bill is wholly for  
pork, which, of course, means political  
effect, is proved by the fact that no  
building in it can be constructed before  
1920. Among the public buildings author-  
ized by the previous Congress 269 are  
still to be constructed. Why, then, should  
this Congress manifest such a desperate  
interest in the present authorization of  
buildings which cannot be started in less  
than three years or finished in less than  
five? The only answer is pork—political  
effect."

N. Y. HARBOR PLANS.

Representative Hubert Insists on  
Two New Items.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—New river and  
harbor improvements asked for New  
York occupied a large part of to-day's  
session of the House committee. Repre-  
sentative Hubert, in charge of the New  
York items, looked horns with the com-  
mittee on two items—the improvement of  
the 10th channel, the second channel  
to the navy yard, contemplating an ulti-  
mate appropriation of \$2,000,000, and the  
opening of Westchester Creek off the  
East River near Port Chester.

When the committee adjourned Mr.  
Hubert was still insistent that these  
items go into the bill in addition to the  
big items previously agreed to—the

Does your clutch push  
hard? Try the easy  
clutch of the

# LIBERTY

at the Show, 3rd floor,  
and think how it saves  
fatigue in a day's motoring.

East River improvement, Hudson River  
project, narrows of Lake Champlain, re-  
moval of Craven Shoals and other small  
items.

More than a dozen new projects were  
added to the list already adopted. They  
include widening the upper bay opposite  
the anchorage, New York harbor, \$200,-  
000, total \$530,000; Bay Ridge and Red  
Hook Channel, New York harbor, \$200,-  
000, total \$930,000; Newtown Creek, New  
York harbor, \$150,000, total \$510,000.

WARSHIP HALTS YACHT ALVINA

Vessel Flying U. S. Flag Must  
Prove She's Not Russian.

The Alvina, a yacht flying the Ameri-  
can flag and bearing the American col-  
ors painted on her